

## **ASSESSMENT PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS**

Pursuant to Food and Agricultural Code Section 75630 (c), all handlers of apples are required to deduct assessments from the account paid by him or her to a producer and to act as a trustee of funds until they are paid to the Commission pursuant to the following procedures:

1. Assessments are due and payable on or before the last day of the month immediately following the month in which apples are shipped. Handlers shall submit a completed assessment report (on a form provided by the Commission) along with the assessment payment.
2. Failure to submit reports or pay assessment by the fifteenth day of the month after assessments become due and payable will be delinquent and will result in a 10% penalty on the principal amount due and owing.
3. In addition to the 10% penalty, interest at the rate of 1.5% per month will accrue on the unpaid principal assessment balance.
4. A “Producer” means any person who is engaged in the business of producing, or causing to be produced, apples for market.
5. A “Handler” means any person engaged in packing apples for fresh consumption or engaged in marketing apples for fresh consumption that the person has produced or that the person is marketing on behalf of a producer either directly or through an agent, employee, broker, or otherwise.
6. A Producer who produce no more than 40,000 pounds per year or who produce apples only on a noncommercial basis for home use, or whose apple trees are used only for ornamental purposes, shall not be subject to assessments.
7. The Producer of apples is obligated to pay the assessments and to determine that the handler has deducted appropriate amounts from payments to him. The handler is obligated to collect the assessments, file assessment reports, and remit payments to the California Apple Commission.
8. Questions regarding these assessment payment procedures please contact the Commission office.